The Quilon-Ernakulam Railway.

60. *MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have decided to start the construction of the Quilon-Ernakulam Railway line in the near future ; and

(*b*) how the Government propose to raise the funds required for the purpose ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) No.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of the answer to (*a*).

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : May I know from Government why this scheme was abandoned by the Government?

M. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The scheme has not been abandoned.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : May I know why Government have decided not to start the Quilon—Ernakulam Railway in the near future, for I heard the member answering to part (*a*) of the question in the negative ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : For want of funds.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether Government cannot raise a loan for the purpose ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Government did not consider it desirable to do so.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether Government have investigated the question of raising a loan in this matter ?

MR. T. C. THOMNEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : Have the Government considered the financial results of the railway contemplated from Quilon to Ernakulam ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : That has been considered.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : Are the Government in a position to tell us whether the contemplated railway would result as a paying concern or would it be something like the Quilon—Shencottah railway ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : The construction would be a paying concern.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : May I know whether it was without any idea as to the possible advantage or disadvantage that the survey of the line was undertaken by Government ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : The survey was undertaken to find out whether it was advantageous or not.

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MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : May I know the probable cost of the railway from Quilon to Ernakulam ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) Rs. 1,84,76,407.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : Is the member in a position to state the probable annual receipts from that railway ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : May I know on what authority the member says that the railway would be a paying concern?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): That is the general trend of the report.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : May I know whether Government intend revising their views about this line in the light of the recent development of the Cochin Harbour ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : It will be considered.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether it was part of the agreement of the Cochin Harbour Scheme that the construction of this railway should be undertaken ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*) : May I know whether Government have any constructive scheme regarding the laying out of new railways in the State ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Not at present.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*) : Is there in Travancore any railway expert to give advice in these matters ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*) : Do not the Government think it necessary ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

Kottarakara-Ernakulam Railway.

61. *MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the total amount estimated for opening the Kottarakara-Ernakulam or the Quilon-Ernakulam Railway line ;

(*b*) the preliminary works hitherto done or the action hitherto taken on account of the proposal and the amount hitherto spent on the same ; and

(*c*) whether they propose to begin this work and, if so, when ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The total amount estimated for the opening of the Quilon-Ernakulam line is Rs. 1,84,76,407.

(*b*) No preliminary work has been done or action taken on account of the proposal and no amount spent on the same.

(*c*) Government have not decided the question.

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